

# Appleton Wiske Community Primary School



## Information for Parents/Carers

We are committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all of our pupils. Bullying of any kind is unacceptable. If bullying does occur, all pupils should know that incidents will be dealt with promptly and effectively. We expect anyone who knows that bullying is happening to tell an appropriate adult.

We refuse to accept bullying behaviour in order to ensure the safety and happiness of all pupils, promote achievement, provide a model of acceptable behaviour and uphold our reputation as a caring school.

<b>What is Bullying?</b>	
<b>Emotional</b>	Being unfriendly, intentionally excluding others, tormenting
<b>Physical</b>	Pushing, kicking, hitting, punching or any use of violence
<b>Racist</b>	Racial taunts, graffiti, gestures
<b>Sexual</b>	Unwanted physical contact or sexually abusive comments
<b>Homophobic</b>	Because of, or focusing on, the issue of sexuality
<b>Verbal</b>	Name-calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours

**Bullying is not:**

- Falling out between friends after a quarrel or disagreement
- Behaviour that all parties have consented to and enjoy

- Any of the above behaviour which is repetitive is considered to be of a bullying nature
- Behaviour which involves an imbalance of power (the victim feels that they cannot defend themselves)
- Cyber Bullying – misuse of the internet, mobile phones or social media to deliberately upset somebody

<b>The Curriculum</b>
The message that bullying is not acceptable is delivered through a range of strategies such as: weekly PSHE & C lessons; circle time activities; 'Anti-Bullying Week'; Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning materials (where children are taught interpersonal skills and how to respond to particular situations).

<b>Steps taken to prevent or discourage bullying</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All pupils and staff have signed the Anti-Bullying Charter (agreed by the School Council)</li> <li>• Our Behaviour Policy sets out clear steps for promoting good behaviour and dealing with any issues</li> <li>• Our Rewards System is highly effective in promoting good behaviour</li> <li>• Members of staff work together to promote positive and harmonious break times</li> <li>• The school promotes an environment where children can confide in an adult or an older child</li> <li>• Members of staff respond quickly, positively and effectively to any issues</li> <li>• Children see that bullying is always dealt with and this approach discourages bullying behaviour</li> <li>• The perpetrators of such behaviour are dealt with and reasons behind their actions are discussed</li> </ul>

<b>Actions taken following an incident of bullying</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reports of bullying are recorded in writing</li> <li>• The child concerned will be dealt with by loss of privileges or by loss of freedom at playtime/lunchtime</li> <li>• Targeted supervision will be kept on any child who has a tendency towards inappropriate behaviour</li> <li>• If allegations are made about a child, parents/carers will be asked to visit school to discuss the situation</li> <li>• The Governing Body are informed of any serious incidents of bullying</li> <li>• Serious incidents, such as racist or homophobic abuse, are reported to the local authority</li> <li>• In extreme cases, the Head Teacher may deem it necessary to exclude a pupil</li> </ul>

If you believe your child is being bullied, make an appointment with their class teacher or the Head Teacher. Do not encourage your child to respond with similar behaviour. Our Anti-Bullying and Behaviour Policies are available on the school website or by request.